

NOTABLE EVENTS OF GREAT WAR DURING YEAR JUST PASSED SUMMARIZED FOR READERS OF THE JOURNAL

PEACE THEORIES COLLAPSE; BARBARIC METHODS PREVAIL AMONG CIVILIZED NATIONS

Great Powers of World Devote Almost Entire Strength to Destroying Each Other During 1915; Events of Bloodshed Occur With Astonishing Rapidity; Universal Horror Prevails and Wanton Disregard of Human Life Characterizes Methods; Perplexity and Uncertainty Regarding Outcome; Prosperity Comes to United States as Result of Ruin Other Countries Bring Upon Themselves; Washington Gains Contentions With Germany and Austria.

The year 1915 has closed. The coming of the new year ends a period whose events loom larger in the history of the world than those of the years that precede it.

The record for the last twelve months is one that has no parallel for bloodshed, for utter recklessness of human life, for extravagant expenditure of material resources.

The sinking of the British battleship *Fornelund* in the English channel by a German submarine on the first day of the year with a loss of 579 lives, only an incident in the international tragedy, was the key to the succeeding days. Five days later a Turkish army corps was annihilated in the Caucasus. Within the month Russian troops stormed and carried the passes of the Carpathians and invaded Transylvania, a British fleet sank a German battleship and torpedoed two others in a running fight in the North sea. German Zeppelins bombarded the English Norfolk coast, damaging property and causing casualties.

The following months continued the record of horror, suffering and destruction. The troops of the Kaiser regained the ground lost to the invading Slavs, capturing one great fortress after another, and threatening the Russian naval base at Riga. On the west front, an almost continuous struggle has been waged from the Belgian coast to the Swiss border. Early in October, after tremendous artillery preparation, the French and British troops left their trenches and stormed the German lines, driving the enemy from his advanced positions and gaining some seven miles of ground in the Champagne and Artois sectors.

Meantime, events in the Balkans began to assume major importance. Venizelos, the Greek premier, resigned because the king disapproved his policy of aiding the entente allies. On October 7, 1,400,000 Austro-German troops began an invasion of Serbia, crossing the Drina, Danube and Sava rivers, making headway against a desperate resistance. Belgrade fell, and three days later Bulgaria started a new drive on Serbia. In November the Bulgarian forces outflanked King Peter's army and troops of the allies operating from Saloniki. The central allies cleared Serbia of enemy forces.

The world war has involved the United States in many embarrassing and delicate situations. The interruption of commerce by the British blockade of Germany, the death of Americans on vessels sunk by German submarines, the activities of belligerent nations in promoting strikes in American industries and hampering American traffic called forth emphatic protests from the United States government.

The insistence of Washington on principles governing the freedom of the seas and the rights of neutrals gained important concessions from the warring nations.

Though the war has somewhat diverted the attention of other happenings, events of significance have occurred in North America. The domestic turmoil in Mexico has continued, and the recognition of Victoriano Carranza as the representative of the de facto government of the republic failed to bring about peace.

While Europe is being devastated by war, prosperity has come to the United States. American trade has risen to the greatest total in the world, an unprecedented occurrence. Crops have set new records. American enterprise has reached out to take advantage of new opportunities for trade. The New Year that comes to foreign nations in the midst of turmoil and bloodshed, finds America peaceful and more prosperous than ever before.

Following is a chronology of the important events of the European war in 1915:

January.

January 1. British battleship *Fornelund* sunk by German submarine in the English channel, with 579 of crew.

January 5. Russians annihilated Ninth Turkish army corps and routed First and Tenth corps in the Caucasus. Russians forced Utsok pass in the Carpathians.

steamers *Angular* and *Falaba*, about 149 lives being lost.

April.

April 4.—Russians defeated Boskai range of Austrians.

Turkish cruiser *Medjedich* sunk by Russian mine.

April 5. America's note to Great Britain and France demanding right of seas for neutrals made public.

April 8. Germany agreed to pay for sinking American ship *William P. Frye*.

April 10. Steamer *Harpagor*, first relief ship of New York to Belgium, sunk in North sea by torpedo mine.

April 14. German Zeppelin dropped bombs on towns in Northumberland and Durham counties, England.

April 21. United States replied to German government criticism of its foreign policies, denying allegations and rejecting suggestions that exportation of arms be prohibited.

April 26. French cruiser *Leon Gambetta* sunk by Austrian torpedo, 522 lives lost.

April 29. German air raiders dropped incendiary bombs on five English east coast towns.

Russians occupied Loutina, northeast of Utsok.

April 30. British announced destruction of eight German submarines within a week by mines and traps.

May.

May 1. British torpedo boat destroyer and two German torpedo boats sunk in fight in North sea.

May 2. German submarine *U-1* torpedoed by German off Selly islands, captain and two seamen lost.

May 6. Austro-German forces occupy Tarnow.

May 1. German liner *Lusitania* torpedoed and sunk by German off coast of Ireland with loss of 1,255 lives, including 115 Americans; among the latter A. G. Vanderbilt, Elbert Hubbard, Charles Frohman, Charles Klein and Charles Plamondon.

May 13. British destroyer *Maori* sunk by mine.

Russian naval base of Liban captured by Germans.

May 11. Cabinet decided United States should demand German make reparation for deaths of Americans resulting from submarine attacks and give guarantees against repetitions of offense.

May 12. British battleship *Goliath* torpedoed in Dardanelles.

May 13. President Wilson's note to Germany cabled.

May 17. Zeppelin attacked English coast.

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THREE KILLED AND 12 INJURED IN COLLISION

La Porte, Ind., Jan. 1.—Three persons are dead and half a dozen badly injured as the result of a head-on collision today between a passenger car, freight car on the Gary & Indianapolis railway, at Brooks Crossing, eight miles west of here. The dead: Willis Wickersham, 27, La Porte, Ind., motor man, passenger car; Mrs. Ellen Reed, Westville, Ind., and an unidentified man from Chicago. The injured were brought to this city and taken to a hospital. A heavy fog is blamed for the collision.

BUSINESS HAS GOOD YEAR AND BRIGHT OUTLOOK

Markets Close With Optimism Because of Austria's Reply; Railroads and Metals Show Splendidly.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

New York, Jan. 1.—The most sensational and spectacular of the most remarkable year in the history of the financial markets of this country, came to an end on a rising tide of quoted values and a revival of activity on a broad and general scale. The year's closing was marked by the settlement of Washington's differences with Vienna over the American incident encountered a feeling of optimism in all quarters.

Other financial developments of the week, which merely confirmed all recent data, included another budget of record-breaking railway statements for November, a further advance in copper metal to 23 cents for future delivery, continuance of high pressure operations in various lines of industry, and business activities full of glowing promise.

The steel trade has known no such prosperity since the days of big flotations a decade or more ago.

Copper and allied metals are at highest prices in five to ten years, and demands for these products, far from abating, is rising beyond all records. Rubber prices are largely unharmed and are being marketed at almost unprecedented prices. Railroads are enlarging their demands for new equipment.

GREEK LINER NEARS PORT UNDER CONVOY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

Newport, R. I., Jan. 1.—Finding that the disabled Greek liner *Thessaloniki* was proceeding into New York under her own power with the Patria of the same line acting as a convoy, the coast guard service headed back for New York this afternoon after a two-day search for the *Thessaloniki*.

The *Thessaloniki* failed to locate the disabled steamer until today, when she picked up a radiogram saying the *Thessaloniki* had drifted 150 miles off her course to the southwest and had been discovered by the Patria 300 miles southeast of Ambrose channel lightship. The radiogram was from the Patria.

Heavy Storm Visits England.

London, Jan. 1 (4:55 p. m.)—Another storm of great severity swept over parts of England today, doing much damage at Liverpool, large shop windows were broken. Mouthpiece suffered extensively. Houses were unroofed and had roofs blown down. It is feared coastwise shipping suffered heavily.

BATTLE ON RUMANIAN BORDER IS CONTINUOUS

Heavy Russian Forces Are Attacking the Austro-German Army Estimated at About 1,500,000.

HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE IN PERSIA DISASTER

Cable Communications With East So Slow That Details May Require Days to Become Known.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

London, Jan. 1 (10:43 p. m.)—The rejuvenated Russian army, equipped with munitions from Japan, America and England, is engaged in a great attack on the Austro-Hungarian forces in Galicia. Reports from Vienna and Petrograd claim the advantage for their respective forces, but neither detail describes decisive results. The details, which are few and conflicting, give no definite description of the battle line. A Petrograd estimate that one and a half millions of Austro-Germans are engaged and assert that whatever chances have occurred in the fighting line are in favor of the Russians. The Austrian war office official report says that the Russian attacks were everywhere repulsed with heavy losses.

Austrians Better Fighters.

A significant fact is that the Russian army has again been able to take the offensive. Recent telegrams from the war chesters where this battle is taking place show that the Russian army has been preparing for these operations for some time past. Cable communication from the Bessarabian region has virtually been suspended for more than a month, thousands of messages being held up until Wednesday last when the censorship was lifted and they began coming through.

More Than 200 Passengers.

Other important news of the day was the announcement of sinking of the India-bound British liner *Persia* Thursday afternoon. The *Persia* carried more than 200 passengers and a crew of between 200 and 250. The cargo was small. Reports received here have given rise to a fear that a majority of the passengers were Indian, including many women.

The New Year's holiday has given a rest to the political agitation over cooperation. The traditional secrecy surrounding cabinet deliberations has been thrown to the winds during the past week. The main facts of the battle with the submarine campaign were made public. The fact that the cabinet is in favor of the enlistment of all unarmored men who can respond to Lord Derby's call for recruits.

Liberal Press Objects.

A small portion of the liberal press strongly opposes Premier Asquith's proposed policy. The *Nation* accuses David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, of betraying the liberal tradition of voluntary service and declares that his influence has shifted the balance in the cabinet.

Sir John A. Simon, secretary for home affairs, has not yet retired from the cabinet, his resignation being held in abeyance, according to today's reports. It is believed that Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, and Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, who opposed Lloyd-George's policy, have decided to remain with the cabinet.

Groups six to nine of the Derby enlistment plan, which include single men from 24 to 27 years of age, also will probably be called to arms on February 1.

Russia is concentrating three army corps on the Bulgarian frontier, according to French wireless reports.

Sunday is to be observed as a day of intercession throughout the United Kingdom when prayers for victory will be offered in every church and chapel of all creeds. Collections for sick and wounded soldiers will be taken.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF AUSTRIAN WAR FRONT

Vienna, Jan. 1 (via London, 19:10 p. m.)—The following official statement was issued by the Austrian war office tonight:

"Russian war theater: Fighting in east Galicia continues with undiminished violence. Yesterday the front of the fighting was on our front in the middle and lower Strpa region to the region northeast of Buczacz, shortly after noon the Russian artillery became active, their fire continuing until evening when the enemy began an attack. At some places they advanced four or five times, as far as our entanglements, but their assaults everywhere collapsed owing to the severity of our fire. At night the enemy retired to his original positions, 600 to 1,000 paces in the rear, abandoning hundreds of dead and wounded. The attacks which the Russians made near Jaslowiec, south of Buczacz, and near Lenczko, on the Dniester river, met the same fate as those of the middle Strpa region.

"Bessarabian front: The day was comparatively quiet. The positions occupied by the army of General Count von Hoffman on the upper Strpa river and the army of General Eduard Boehm-Ermolli on the flank, were subjected to a hostile artillery fire. The Russian battalion which attacked south of Erdaniy on the front occupied by the army of General Joseph Ferdinand was scattered. On the Strpa and Bug, northeast of Chortorok, German and Austrian troops captured hostile advanced posts. Near Koliba and west of Buczacz, the Russian army made an attack. Yesterday Italian heavy artillery again bombarded the villages of Mallageth and Wolfbach, the fire reaching its greatest intensity at night. On the Col di Lana, the situation is unchanged.

"Southeastern front: Near Ipek four more guns, which had been buried by the Serbians, have been brought in. On the Tara there has been skirmishing only."

BRITISH STEAMER PERSIA SUNK BY SUBMARINE IN MEDITERRANEAN; LOSS OF LIFE RUNS INTO HUNDREDS

AT LEAST TWO AMERICANS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ABOARD BIG LINER SENT TO BOTTOM

Vessel Is Said to Have Carried 160 Passengers and Crew of Between 250 and 300; Four Lifeboats, Capable of Carrying Only 60 Persons Each, Got Away; United States Consul General Reports to Washington That Few Persons Escaped When 8,000-ton Ship Was Torpedoed; Great Battle in Galicia Is Matter of Chief Interest on Battle Fronts; Russia Has 1,500,000 Men Engaged Near Rumanian Border, Germans Are Resisting Desperately. Says Berlin.

(By Morning Journal Special Leased Wire.)

The British passenger steamer *Persia* with two or more Americans on board has been sunk in the eastern Mediterranean by a submarine. The full story has not yet been told but it is feared the disaster, from a standpoint of loss of life among non-belligerent voyagers, will rank second only to the sinking of the *Lusitania*.

Unofficial figures indicate that there were about 160 passengers on board the *Persia*, a vessel of nearly 8,000 tons, and between 250 and 300 members of the crew. Four boats, each capable of carrying sixty persons, got away and their occupants were picked up by a steamer bound for Alexandria. It has not been established how many were able to disembark in the small boats, but a message received at Washington from Robert P. Skinner, American consul general at London, based presumably on the British admiralty's report, says that nearly all on board the *Persia* perished.

Robert McNeely of Monroe, N. C., who was on his way to take office as American consul at Aden, Arabia, and Charles Grant, of Boston, were on the *Persia*.

Although the nationality of the submarine which sank the *Persia* has not been established, it is generally assumed in Washington to have been Austrian, since the German ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, declared recently that no German or Turkish submarines were operating in the Mediterranean. It is felt at Washington that the incident threatens new complications between this country and Austria. The British steamer *Abela* of 3,650 tons, has been sunk probably in the eastern Mediterranean.

On the various fronts few changes are reported. Of chief interest is the great battle in eastern Galicia. Official reports give few details of the situation there, although they emphasize the severity of the fighting. Germany and Austria have sent heavy reinforcements to meet the Russian threat. It being reported they sent 1,500,000 men along the front between the Pripiat river and the Rumanian border. A German official statement of yesterday said Russian attacks near Burkanow had been repulsed as the result of a flanking movement.

Along the Franco-Belgian front comparative quiet still prevails. On Gallipoli peninsula the Turks are giving no rest to the French and British forces left behind when the Suvla bay and Anzac positions were evacuated. The British government has announced that severe damage has been done to the positions of the allies near Seddul Bahr in the course of violent fighting.

There are signs of renewed activity in Macedonia. It is reported unofficially that German and Austrian forces are gathering at Monastir in southwestern Serbia near the Greek border. Conflicting reports are received concerning the intentions of the Bulgarians, but Premier Radostoff is quoted as having said they would soon begin advance into Greek territory to attack the French and British at Saloniki.

OBREGON GOES TO CHIHUAHUA WITH FULL STAFF

Resumption of Industries in Mexico Is Progressing and Many Big Companies Prepare to Open Plants.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

San Juan, Mex., Jan. 1.—The departure of General Obregon today for Chihuahua City was the only significant military happening on this part of the border today. General Obregon was accompanied by his entire staff. It was said at the Carranza consulate that General Trevino would probably confer with General Carranza upon the appointment of a provisional cabinet and that preparations would be made for the entry of General Carranza, his cabinet and the army into Mexico City. This, however, was the subject of speculation.

Announcements of resumption of mining and smelting operations in Chihuahua and Durango state were more plentiful today than in general. Delinquent payments of Carranza troops were sent today to Carranza Casas Grandes and towns on the border adjacent to Juarez.

Among the latter there was considerable discussion of Mayor Prieto's proclamation calling upon all whose property had been confiscated by Villa in Juarez to prove ownership and receive back their property.

It was said all confiscations in Juarez had been noted by the agent of General Carranza and before the split of the two leaders. The mayor's proclamation was therefore questioned. Next to the recent announcement of an early resumption of the American Smelting and Refining company's smelters and mining property in the state, giving employment to about 7,000 men, the early resumption of the Pearson syndicate plant, the Madera Company, Ltd., was the most important. The company employs about 5,000 men.

Attempt to Blow Up State House of Massachusetts

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

Boston, Jan. 1.—An unsuccessful attempt to dynamite the state house in Boston today, failed. A bomb containing four pounds of explosive was attached to a basement door and a fuse had been lighted, but the flame apparently died before reaching the detonator. Had the explosion occurred, in the opinion of the police, the building would have been greatly damaged. The fact that the bomb was used as a fuse, according to investigation, indicated that the bomb was the work of a novice. A woman named Mary, charged the dynamite.

CONSUL NEELY'S BROTHER ALSO ABOARD PERSIA

Charles Neely, N. C., Jan. 1.—Robert B. Neely, the United States consul on board the torpedoed ship *Persia*, was accompanied abroad by his brother, Robert Neely, until recently editor of the *Waxhaw* (N. C.) Enterprise. He was stated at Monroe tonight. Doud McNeely would not to have been his brother's secretary.

Robert Neely was born near Waxhaw in 1884. He was educated at the University of North Carolina and practiced law here before entering the consular service. He had been a member of both houses of the North Carolina general assembly.

Al Ringling, Noted Circus Man, Dies

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 1.—Al Ringling, 66 years old, died here today of Bright's disease. He had been about a year. Mr. Ringling was the oldest of the Ringling brothers, circus managers, who have their winter headquarters here. Mr. Ringling was a widow.

The enterprises of which Mr. Ringling was one of the best in the back of the family name. The first real circus given by the Ringlings, ever, took place at Dubuque, Ia. in 1871. It was a business development which was followed by the Ringling brothers, who were among the first to make a fortune in the circus business.

Four brothers, Al, Harry, John and Fred, of the Ringling family, were all circus men. They were Al, Harry, John and Fred, of the Ringling family, were all circus men. They were Al, Harry, John and Fred, of the Ringling family, were all circus men.

COMMUNAL REPORTED AT NEW YORK

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEADERS WIRE.)

New York, Jan. 1.—The all tank *Communal*, which was reported to have been sunk in the Mediterranean by a submarine, arrived here today.

After leaving Alexandria the *Communal* was sighted several submarines, also several other submarines, but did not make any contact with them. It was reported in official circles tonight that had been escaped some official report would have been forwarded by him, as more than two days had elapsed since the vessel was down.

In the absence of specific details, Secretary Lansing tonight declined to comment upon the sinking of the *Persia*. He made it clear that until the nationality of the submarine had been definitely established and the circumstances of the attack made known no action would be taken.

It is realized that should an Austrian submarine have destroyed the vessel the Vienna government might offer the explanation that the vessel had not been sufficient time for the instructions conforming to the rules of the Vienna government, which was not to be used in the Mediterranean. It was pointed out in official circles tonight that had been escaped some official report would have been forwarded by him, as more than two days had elapsed since the vessel was down.

Whether or not the *Persia* was destroyed by a submarine, the incident is a serious one, and it is hoped that the investigation will be conducted with the utmost speed and efficiency.

THE WEATHER

WEATHER FORECAST.
Denver, Jan. 1.—New Mexico: Sunday fair, slightly colder southeast portion; Monday fair.

LOCAL WEATHER REPORT.
For twenty-four hours, ending at 6 p. m. yesterday:
Maximum, 46 degrees; minimum, 12 degrees; range, 34 degrees; temperature at 6 p. m., 20 degrees; southwest wind, clear.